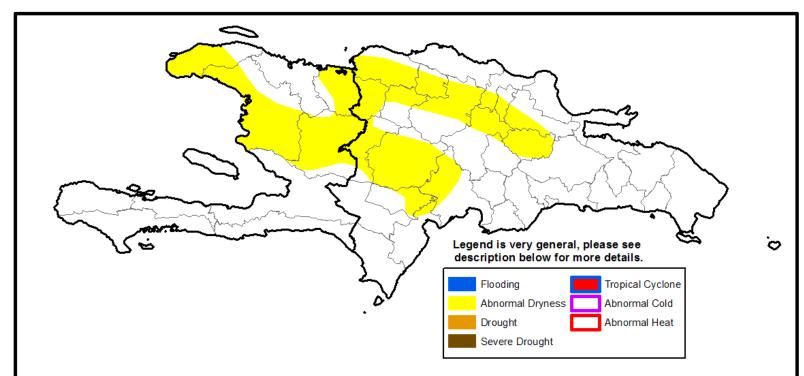


Climate Prediction Center's Hispaniola Hazards Outlook April 28 – May 4, 2016

Increased rains received across southern and central departments of Hispaniola.



During the last week, the continuation of early spring rainfall throughout Hispaniola brought favorable amounts of moisture for many local areas. According to satellite rainfall estimates, the highest weekly rainfall accumulations were received across the Gulf of Gonaives region (50-75mm), with lesser, but well distributed light to moderate rainfall throughout the rest of the island. Despite the continuation of well-distributed early season shower activity over the past weeks, a lower than average quantity of rainfall has been observed, which has led to the development of anomalous dryness mainly concentrated in central and northern Hispaniola. Since late March, many local areas in northern and central Haiti have experienced between a quarter and a half (25% - 50%) of their normal rainfall accumulation, with a slightly below-average number of days of rain during the same timeframe. Both the infrequent and low rainfall totals may negatively impact ground conditions, and may also result is a delay planting of seasonal crops. Remotely sensed vegetation indices reflect the early season dryness with health deterioration over many areas in the Centre, Nord, and Nord-Est departments of Haiti, and into northwestern Dominican Republic. For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation models suggest an increase in rainfall, with average to above-average precipitation amounts during the end of April and into early May. The forecast enhancement of rainfall is expected to help offset rainfall deficits in the north.